

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 14, 2022

The Honorable Amanda Lefton
Director
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
1849 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Director Lefton:

We write as Members of Congress who represent the great state of New Jersey in support of the Construction and Operations Plan (COP) submitted by Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind (Atlantic Shores), for the development of two offshore wind energy generation projects within the southern portion of Lease Area OCS-A 0499 (the Lease Area). We know “once in a century” storms are occurring with much greater frequency that continue to devastate homes and businesses across our state. Thanks to the leadership of Governor Phil Murphy and the Biden Administration we have a unique opportunity to reduce the emissions that drive climate change by deploying clean electricity and creating a new domestic industry with offshore wind energy.

As you know, Atlantic Shores is a 50/50 joint venture between EDF Renewables and Shell New Energies. The venture has taken robust steps to prepare this COP and inform the general public about how the venture plans to build wind turbines offshore and interconnect to the electrical grid onshore. The proposed Atlantic Shores Lease Area is located on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) within the New Jersey Wind Energy Area (NJWEA) that was identified by BOEM as suitable for offshore renewable energy development through a multi-year, public environmental review process. The COP covers Atlantic Shores Project 1 and Project 2 (the Projects). Earlier this year, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJ BPU) awarded Atlantic Shores Project 1 an Offshore Renewable Energy Credit (OREC) allowance to deliver 1,510 megawatts (MW) of offshore wind energy to the State of New Jersey. Project 2 is also being developed to support future solicitations. These projects are critical to ensuring New Jersey State attains its offshore wind energy development goal of 7,500 MW by 2035, and meeting President Biden’s goal of 30,000 MW by 2030.

We support the COP because Atlantic Shores has shown a commitment to making New Jersey a national leader in the green economy by investing in workforce training and using local union labor from six unions operating in our state, including Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters, Laborers’ International Union of North America, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 456, Local 400 and Local 351, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825, Ironworkers International and Eastern Millwright Regional Council. Additionally, Atlantic Shores has shown a commitment to our communities by funding science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education programs, environmental protection

efforts, and research at New Jersey's leading academic institutions, including Rutgers University, Stockton University and Rowan College.

We understand that once the Atlantic Shores' Projects 1 and 2 are fully operational more than 22,290 full time equivalent (FTE) jobs are expected to have been created. The creation of these jobs is expected to be supported by collaborations between Atlantic Shores and the cooperative science, engineering, research, and next generation workforce training programs at Rutgers University, Rowan College, and Stockton University.

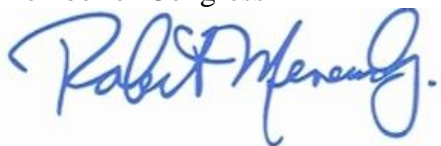
We support the Atlantic Shores Project 1 because it is expected to power over 700,000 homes and we are informed that there is a commitment to delivering guaranteed local economic benefits of \$848 million during the development and construction phase for New Jersey. An estimated \$1.896 billion in NJ benefits are expected to be created over the life of this project, including indirect and induced benefits. Advancing the COP so that these projects can move forward would create long-term, sustainable, renewable energy for communities in New Jersey.

Thank you very much for your time and attention to our request. We look forward to working together to ensure our nation will generate clean energy for future generations to come.

Sincerely,



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



Robert Menendez
United States Senator



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



Albio Sires
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Andy Kim
Member of Congress



Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



Tom Malinowski
Member of Congress